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10/659,880	09/11/2003	Gary J. Verdun	016295.1421 (DC-05148)	5013
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BAKER BOTTS, LLP			TAN, ALVIN H	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

debbie.allen@bakerbotts.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/659,880

Applicant(s)

VERDUN ET AL.

Examiner

Alvin H. Tan

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 14-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 14-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. Claims 1-12 and 14-21 have been examined and rejected. This Office action is responsive to the amendment filed on 10/15/07, which has been entered in the above identified application.

Drawings

2. The amendments to the specification to correct the drawings have been approved, and the objections to the drawings are withdrawn.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 22 has been canceled and thus, the objection to the claim is withdrawn.
4. Claims 18-21 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - a. On *[line 20]* of claim 18, Examiner suggests changing "operation a" to -- operation for a"--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The correction(s) to claims 4, 6, and 17 have been approved, and the rejections to the claims under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, are withdrawn.

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 1-7 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- a. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the user" in *[lines 12, 14, 18]*. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- b. Claim 18 recites the limitation "the user" in *[lines 17, 19, 20]*. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 1-12 and 14-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Codilian et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,892,249 B1) and Anwar (U.S. Patent No. 6,750,864 B1).

Claims 1-7

9-1. Regarding claim 1, Codilian teaches the claim comprising displaying a first component control for a first component, the first component control operable to effect a user preference setting concerning the first selected component and displaying an operating status for a second component related to the first component, the operating status of the second component resulting from effecting the user preference setting of the first component, by disclosing dependently adjusting a plurality of parameter settings in a disk drive [*column 1, lines 40-47*]. Sliders are displayed corresponding to operating levels of parameters wherein the operating levels and the plurality of parameter settings are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings [*column 2, lines 5-10*].

Codilian does not expressly teach displaying a user interface for locking the user preference setting for the first component and displaying a second component control for the second component, the second component control allowing the user to change the operation of the second component within a first range of settings if the user preference setting for the first component is not locked by the user and change the operation of the second component within a second range of settings smaller than the first range of settings if the user preference setting for the first component is locked by the user. Anwar teaches sliders for multi-dimensional data [*column 8, lines 20-31*]. The values in each slider are dependent upon each other [*column 8, line 34 to column 9, line 31*]. A slider may be enabled or disabled [*column 9, lines 47-50*]. Thus, if a first slider is

disabled, or locked, at a certain value, the range of values for the other sliders would be restricted to only those corresponding to the locked value. If the first slider is enabled, or not locked, the user would be able to select a value from the normal range of values since there would be no restrictions. This aids the user in the display and analysis of multi-dimensional data. Since Codilian teaches dependently adjusting a plurality of parameter settings using sliders, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow for the enabling and disabling of sliders when adjusting values, as taught by Anwar. This would aid the user in the display and analysis of multi-dimensional data.

9-2. Regarding claim 2, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 1, further comprising displaying an operating status for the first component and each related component, the operating status of each related component reflecting the consequences of effecting the user preference setting on the first component, by disclosing that sliders are displayed corresponding to operating levels of parameters wherein the operating levels and the plurality of parameter settings are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings [*Codilian, column 2, lines 5-10*].

9-3. Regarding claim 3, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 1, further comprising determining the operating status of the second component resulting from effecting the user preference setting on the first component based on user defined

component relationships, by disclosing that users may change the parameters of sliders corresponding to operating levels of the disk drive *[Codilian, column 7, lines 16-22]*.

Additionally, users can assign weight values based on the importance of the parameter *[Codilian, column 7, lines 31-45]*.

9-4. Regarding claim 4, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 1, further comprising determining the operating status of the second component resulting from effecting the user preference setting on the first component based on component behavior observed during operation of an information handling system, by disclosing that control input may comprise operating information identifying an operating condition of a disk drive *[Codilian, column 4, line 60 to column 5, line 7]*.

9-5. Regarding claim 5, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 1, further comprising displaying a plurality of component controls, each of the plurality of component controls corresponding to a respective component and operable to effect a user preference setting on its respective component, by disclosing that sliders are displayed corresponding to operating levels of parameters wherein the operating levels and the plurality of parameter settings are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings *[Codilian, column 2, lines 5-10]*.

9-6. Regarding claim 6, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 1, further comprising adjusting the component control for the second component substantially simultaneously with an adjustment of the first component control for the first component, by disclosing that sliders are displayed corresponding to operating levels of parameters wherein the operating levels and the plurality of parameter settings are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings [*Codilian, column 2, lines 5-10*].

9-7. Regarding claim 7, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 1, further comprising communicating the user preference setting to a device manager, the device manager operable to adjust operation of the first component in accordance with the user preference setting, by disclosing that the parameters relate to operating levels for a disk drive [*Codilian, column 3, lines 40-46*].

Claims 8-12, 14-17

9-8. Regarding claim 8, Codilian teaches the claim comprising a memory, a processor coupled to the memory, and a plurality of component operably coupled to the memory and the processor, each component having an operating status, by disclosing dependently adjusting a plurality of parameter settings in a disk drive [*column 1, lines 40-47*]. A computer readable storage medium is embodied in a host computer connected to the disk drive [*column 3, lines 59-66*].

Codilian teaches a display device operably coupled to the memory and the processor and a program of instructions storable in the memory and executable by the processor, the program of instructions operable to display the operating status for a first component, by disclosing a computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium *[column 1, lines 40-41]* for displaying sliders for dependently adjusting operating levels of the disk drive *[column 2, lines 5-7]*.

Codilian teaches receiving user input for a desired modification in operation for the first component, determining the operating status for each operationally linked component resulting from the modification in operation for the first component, and displaying on the display device the operating status for the first component and at least one operationally linked component, by disclosing that sliders are displayed corresponding to operating levels of parameters wherein the operating levels and the plurality of parameter settings are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings *[column 2, lines 5-10]*.

Codilian does not expressly teach receiving user input for locking the operating status of the first component, allowing user input for a desired modification in operation for a second component within a first range of settings if the operating status of the first component is not locked by the user and allowing user input for a desired modification in operation for a second component within a second range of settings smaller than the first range of settings if the operating status of the first component is locked by the user. Anwar teaches sliders for multi-dimensional data *[column 8, lines 20-31]*. The values in each slider are dependent upon each other *[column 8, line 34 to column 9, line 31]*. A

slider may be enabled or disabled [*column 9, lines 47-50*]. Thus, if a first slider is disabled, or locked, at a certain value, the range of values for the other sliders would be restricted to only those corresponding to the locked value. If the first slider is enabled, or not locked, the user would be able to select a value from the normal range of values since there would be no restrictions. This aids the user in the display and analysis of multi-dimensional data. Since Codilian teaches dependently adjusting a plurality of parameter settings using sliders, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow for the enabling and disabling of sliders when adjusting values, as taught by Anwar. This would aid the user in the display and analysis of multi-dimensional data.

9-9. Regarding claim 9, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 8, further comprising the program of instructions operable to define the operational links between components, by disclosing that sliders are displayed corresponding to operating levels of parameters wherein the operating levels and the plurality of parameter settings are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings [*Codilian, column 2, lines 5-10*].

9-10. Regarding claim 10, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 9, further comprising the program of instructions operable to ascertain configuration of the information handling system to define the operational links between components, by disclosing that the various programmable components of the disk drive are configured

using the parameter settings generated by the computer program [*Codilian, column 3, lines 15-18*].

9-11. Regarding claim 11, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 9, further comprising the program of instructions operable to define the operational links between components in accordance with user supplied parameters, by disclosing that users may change the parameters of sliders corresponding to operating levels of the disk drive [*Codilian, column 7, lines 16-22*].

9-12. Regarding claim 12, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 9, further comprising the program of instructions operable to calculate the effects resulting from the modification in operation according to the defined operational links, by disclosing that the operating levels and the plurality of parameter settings of the disk drive are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings [*Codilian, column 2, lines 5-10*].

9-13. Regarding claim 14, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 8, further comprising the program of instructions operable to display a plurality of performance controls, the performance controls operable to effect a modification in operation of an associated component and display the operating status for one or more components related to each performance control, by disclosing that sliders are displayed corresponding to operating levels of parameters wherein the operating levels

and the plurality of parameter settings are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings [*Codilian, column 2, lines 5-10*].

9-14. Regarding claim 15, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 8, further comprising the program of instructions operable to implement the modification in operation, by disclosing that adjusted parameter settings may affect the operation of a programmable component of the disk drive [*Codilian, column 3, lines 51-58*].

9-15. Regarding claim 16, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 8, further comprising the program of instruction operable to substantially simultaneously display the operating status for the first component, receive the desired modification in operation for the first component, and display on the display device the operational status for the first component and at least one operationally linked component, by disclosing that sliders are displayed corresponding to operating levels of parameters wherein the operating levels and the plurality of parameter settings are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings [*Codilian, column 2, lines 5-10*].

9-16. Regarding claim 17, Codilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 14, further comprising the performance control representing a component control for a software module, the software module responsible for controlling a plurality of

operationally linked component parameters, by disclosing that a computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium allows for dependently adjusting a plurality of parameter settings for the disk drive [*Codilian, column 3, lines 32-35*] using sliders that represent parameter settings of the disk drive [*Codilian, column 7, lines 16-22*].

Claims 18-21

9-17. Regarding claim 18, Codilian teaches the claim of a computer program including executable instructions for defining relationships between a plurality of information handling system components, displaying at least one performance control, the performance control operable to effect at least one desired change in operation of a first configurable information handling system component, by disclosing a computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium [*column 1, lines 40-41*] for displaying sliders for dependently adjusting operating levels of a disk drive [*column 2, lines 5-7*].

Codilian teaches receiving, through the at least one performance control, a desired change in operation of the first configurable information handling system component, calculating, based on the defined relationships, effects on one or more related information handling system components resulting from the desired change in operation of the first configurable information handling system component, and displaying an operating status for the related information handling system components resulting from effecting the desired change, by disclosing that sliders are displayed

corresponding to operating levels of parameters wherein the operating levels and the plurality of parameter settings are dependently adjusted when any one of the sliders is adjusted to generate a plurality of modified parameter settings *[column 2, lines 5-10]*.

Codilian does not expressly teach displaying a user interface for locking the operation of the first configurable information handling system component, allowing the user to change the operation of a second configurable information handling system component within a first range of settings if the operation of the first configurable information handling system component is not locked by the user and allowing the user to change the operation of a second configurable information handling system component within a second range of settings smaller than the first range of settings if the operation of the first configurable information handling system component is locked by the user. Anwar teaches sliders for multi-dimensional data *[column 8, lines 20-31]*. The values in each slider are dependent upon each other *[column 8, line 34 to column 9, line 31]*. A slider may be enabled or disabled *[column 9, lines 47-50]*. Thus, if a first slider is disabled, or locked, at a certain value, the range of values for the other sliders would be restricted to only those corresponding to the locked value. If the first slider is enabled, or not locked, the user would be able to select a value from the normal range of values since there would be no restrictions. This aids the user in the display and analysis of multi-dimensional data. Since Codilian teaches dependently adjusting a plurality of parameter settings using sliders, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow for the enabling and

disabling of sliders when adjusting values, as taught by Anwar. This would aid the user in the display and analysis of multi-dimensional data.

9-18. Regarding claim 19, Condilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 18, further operable to display a performance control for each configurable information handling system component, by disclosing N sliders for dependently adjusting N operating levels of the disk drive [*Condilian, column 2, lines 5-7*].

9-19. Regarding claim 20, Condilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 19, further operable to simultaneously display the operating status of each information handling system component related to the configurable information handling system components, by disclosing that the sliders correspond to operating levels of parameters [*Condilian, column 2, lines 5-7*].

9-20. Regarding claim 21, Condilian and Anwar teach the claim with respect to claim 18, further operable to define the relationships between the plurality of information handling system components based on performance data for the current information handling system configuration, by disclosing that control input may comprise operating information identifying an operating condition of a disk drive [*Codilian, column 4, line 60 to column 5, line 7*].

Response to Arguments

10. The Examiner acknowledges the Applicant's amendments to claims 1-4, 6-8, 17, and 18 and the cancellation of claims 13 and 22. Regarding independent claims 1, 8, and 18, the Applicant alleges that Barrus (U.S. Patent No. 6,192,480 B1), as described in the previous Office action, does not explicitly teach, "displaying a user interface for locking the user preference setting for the first component; and displaying a second component control for the second component, the second component control allowing the user to: change the operation of the second component within a first range of settings if the user preference setting for the first component is not locked by the user; and change the operation of the second component within a second range of settings smaller than the first range of settings if the user preference setting for the first component is locked by the user", as has been amended to the claims. Examiner has therefore rejected independent claims 1, 8, and 18 under 35 U.S.C § 103 as being unpatentable over Codilian et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,892,249 B1) and Anwar (U.S. Patent No. 6,750,864 B1). See sections 9-1, 9-8, and 9-17. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant states that dependent claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-17, and 19-21 recite all the limitations of the independent claims, and thus, are allowable in view of the remarks set forth regarding independently amended claims 1, 8, and 18. However, as discussed above, Codilian and Anwar are considered to teach claims 1, 8, and 18, and consequently, claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-17, and 19-21 are rejected.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record on attached form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach similar systems for communicating the effects of user preference settings in an information handling system.

12. It should be noted that the examiner originally assigned to this case has been changed.

13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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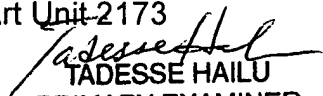
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alvin H. Tan whose telephone number is 571-272-8595. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on 571-272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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